

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOGADI 01009 290434Z

11
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 EB-11 COME-00 DRC-01 /065 W
----- 082043

R 280825Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2034

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOGADISCIO 1009

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR CGEN SO UR
SUBJECT: SIAD COMMENTS ON RECENT EXPULSION ORDERS AGAINST
AMERICANS

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT SIAD TOLD ME JUNE 24 THAT EXPULSION ORDER

AGAINST VOA CORRESPONDENT WILLIAMS WAS DUE TO BELIEF HE WAS CIA
AGENT AND THAT CONOCO MANAGER RAMSDELL HAD BEEN EXPELLED
BECAUSE OF ILLEGAL CONTRACT WITH SOMALI MILITARY OFFICER. END

SUMMARY.

2. DURING MY JUNE 24 CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT SIAD, I NOTED
THAT EXPULSION ORDERS HAD BEEN ISSUED AGAINST FOUR AMERICANS
WITHIN ONE WEEK IN JUNE. I SAID THIS HAD RAISED QUESTIONS
ABOUT GSDR ATTITUDE TOWARD US.

3. SIAD SAID WE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT REACT TOO FAST OR LET SUCH
MATTERS SPOIL OUR RELATIONS. QUESTION OF US JOURNALIST HAD COME
TO HIM FOR DECISION. (HE WAS OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO DAVID WILLIAMS
CASE - MOGADISCIO 841.) HE WAS TOLD THIS JOURNALIST WAS CIA
AGENT BUT HE HAD RESPONDED THAT "THERE ARE PLENTY OF CIA AGENTS
IN SOMALIA AND ONE MORE WILL NOT RPT NOT HURT". I DEMURRED AT
THIS RATIONALE. I SAID I WELCOMED REVERSAL OF EXPULSION
ORDER BUT ORIGINAL ACTION OFTEN MADE GREATER IMPRESSION THAN ITS
REVERSAL.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOGADI 01009 290434Z

4. I THEN BROUGHT UP EXPULSION OF RAMSDELL, STATING THAT I HAD BEEN TOLD THIS WAS ACTION AGAINST HIM AS INDIVIDUAL. I ASKED IF SIAD STILL TOOK FAVORABLE VIEW OF CONOCO OPERATIONS. SIAD SAID REASON FOR RAMSDELL EXPULSION WAS THAT HE HAD HAD ILLEGAL "CONTRACT" WITH SOMALI MILITARY OFFICER. OFFICER HAD NOW RPT NOW BEEN PUT IN JAIL. RAMSDELL HAD BEEN TOLD WHEN HE FIRST CAME NOT TO "CORRUPT" SOMALIS AND INDEED TO REPORT TO AUTHORITIES ANY ATTEMPT BY SOMALIS TO GET "BAKSHISH" FROM COMPANY. SOME HAD ASSERTED RAMSDELL HAD ESTABLISHED THIS ILLEGAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ARMY OFFICER ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM EMBASSY, BUT SIAD FELT THIS NOT RPT NOT TO BE THE CASE. I CONFIRMEDXTHIS.

5. SUBSEQUENT CHECK WITH ACTING CONOCO MANAGER REVEALED THAT RAMSDELL HIRED ARMY MAJOR HASSAN LAST AUGUST AS CONSULTANT ON IN-COUNTRY COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS AT FIVE HUNDRED SHILLINGS PER MONTH. CONTRARY TO COMPANY'S NORMAL PRACTICE, HASSAN'S EMPLOYMENT HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN CLEARED WITH HIS MINISTRY. HASSAN HAD BEEN ARRESTED JUNE 16 AND NATIONAL SECURITY SERVICE HAD TALKED WITH CONOCO PERSONNEL THREE TIMES SINCE THAT DATE TO ASCERTAIN NATURE OF HASSAN'S ACTIVITIES. THEIR APPROACH HAD BEEN ONE OF SEEKING COOPERATION IN THEIR INVESTIGATION, NOT RPT NOT OF LEVELING ACCUSATIONS AGAINST CONOCO PERSONNEL.

6. CONOCO ACTING MANAGER DOUBTS THAT HASSAN RELATIONSHIP WAS IN FACT REASON FOR RAMSDELL EXPULSION (AND THIS IS OF COURSE FIRST TIME SOMALIS HAVE MENTIONED THIS TO US). HE NOTES THAT HASSAN ARREST CAME TWO WEEKS AFTER RAMSDELL EXPULSION AND DOUBTS (AS WE DO) THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SO LONG DELAYED IF HASSAN CONTRACT WAS REASON FOR ACTION AGAINST RAMSDELL. CONOCO UNDERSTANDS PRESIDENT SIAD HAS ORDERED INVESTIGATION OF BACKGROUND OF RAMSDELL EXPULSION AND SPECULATES THAT HASSAN RELATIONSHIP MAY HAVE BEEN DREDGED UP BY SECURITY SERVICE AS WAY TO JUSTIFY THEIR ARBITRARY ACTION.

7. COMMENT: WE TEND AGREE WITH CONOCO SPECULATION, THOUGH PICTURE BY NO MEANS CLEAR. WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT SIAD HAS ORDERED INVESTIGATION AND HOPE THIS WILL DETER SECURITY AUTHORITIES FROM TAKING SUCH ACTION IN FUTURE WITHOUT FULLY CHECKING IT OUT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MOGADI 01009 290434Z

KIRK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOGADI01009
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740173-0074
From: MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974064/aaaaadee.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIAD COMMENTS ON RECENT EXPULSION ORDERS AGAINST AMERICANS
TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, SO, UR, US, VOA, (WILLIAMS, DAVID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005